

had been already appointed, should also be enlarged: the money required for this purpose, and also for cleansing and making of drains and sewers was raised by a duty on coals, which was at this time increased to 3s. per chaldron.

On the 1st of March, 1670, the commissioners of sewers, in consequence of powers granted them by Parliament, published an Act of Common Council, part of which is as follows:—

"That hereinafter all streets within this city, called, known, or set down as high-street, shall be paved round, or causeway fashion, and upon notice given to the commissioners of any defective pavements, in any streets, lanes, and passages, within this city and liberties, the same shall be forthwith made good and amended, unless by general consent some better expedient be found and published.

That inasmuch as it has been found by common experience that the paviers, to hide and cover their bad workmanship, have oftentimes spread and laid great quantities of gravel over their pavements, to greater charge of the persons setting them on to work than was needful, and which, upon a sudden rain, did either choke the common sewers or turn to dirt or mire in the streets; therefore the said paviers are required that hereafter they do forbear to lay or spread any more gravel on the pavements than will only fill the joints of their work, and cause the same to be swept and well rammed, and leave the pavement bare of gravel, and keep a regular method of pavement, not paving one door higher than another, upon pain of paying 5s. for every complaint. That the breadth of 6 feet at the least from the foundation of the houses in such of the said high streets, which shall be allowed to be posted, shall be paved by the inhabitants or owners with flat or broad stone for a foot-passage, unless such parts thereof as shall lie before any gateway, which may be done with square rag, by the said breadth of 6 feet, upon pain of a fine of 5s. for every week the same shall be omitted to be done after notice given."

Persons having occasion to repair any house or houses in any public thoroughfare were directed to apply to the Chamberlain for leave to board in a piece of ground before his building, wherein to lay his materials, or in default to pay a fine of 40s. and 20s. for every week's omission to do so.

Stringent regulations were at the same time made for the sweeping and cleansing of the streets and other matters of public importance.

Soon after the fire, Sir Christopher Wren submitted a plan for the City, in which he proposed the erection of the "fair quay" already alluded to, but that and other important parts of his plan were set aside by the influence of various and powerful private interests. Notwithstanding these ill-judged alterations, which must be regretted by every one at the present day, the means used during the reign of Charles II. were such as to have not only prevented the occurrence of the plague, but also the spread of fire, to which London had for ages before been liable. The buildings erected immediately after the fire are mostly of a plain and substantial description, built with brick, and occasionally ornamented with facings of stone or light red bricks. Many of these houses remain at the present day (with the exception of the windows) without alteration and in good condition. The house, engraving No. 59 is a characteristic example of many of the second-rate houses built immediately after the fire, and has the date 1666 upon it. The houses in Cheapside and other important places, are taller and somewhat more elegant in design, but, as might be expected, throughout the site of the fire, the houses show that the intention has been to make useful structures in the shortest possible time. The effect of this is to give the city a monotonous appearance, which will require the labours of many years' improved taste to remove. While preparing materials for these papers, we have made several careful examinations of the district of the fire, and have been surprised at the completeness of the destruction. There is, however, a house at the corner of Friday-street, Cheapside, which has been but little damaged, while all around has been swept away. This house is marked by the sign of the Chained Swan outside: this is the same

house known in early engravings by the sign of the Nag's Head. An engraving of this suspended sign is given in the first of these papers. Inside this house evident marks of the fire may be observed on the massive beams of the structure. Many of the houses of the date under consideration, like that just mentioned, still retain the old tradesmen's signs in front, most of them well executed in stone, and generally bearing the date 1666, 1668, and 1669.

During the succeeding years of the reign of Charles II. London, under the spirit of improvement which had been created by the stern teachers plague and famine, assumed its usual appearance of trade and bustle: many of the churches were rebuilt, and new St. Paul's cathedral was rising steadily under the direction of its famous architect.

In 1687, the second year of the reign of James II. there arrived in England 15,000 French Protestants who had been compelled to fly from the persecution of the reformed religion in France. The exiles were immediately relieved by money arising from a brief, on which was collected the sum of 63,713*l*. Out of the above number, 13,500 settled in and about the city of London and parts contiguous, who not only improved various of our manufactures, but also founded the famous manufactures of silk at Spitalfields.

During the reigns of William and Mary and Queen Anne, in addition to the great increase of London, several Acts for the improvement of the streets and police were carried into effect. In 1695 an Act was passed which had an important effect on London shops. By this Act it was directed that no person should expose for sale in any public market any mercery wares, lace and linen, grocery and confectionary wares, cutlers' wares, tin wares, drapery wares, millinery wares, glass and earthen wares, &c. &c. upon pain of paying a penalty of 3*l*. with costs of suit.

In 1704, the common council passed an act for better regulating the city watch, by which all former acts were annulled. In this act they ordained that each ward should provide a number of strong able-bodied men, and that the deputy and common council of every ward should have power to oblige every person occupying any house, shop, or warehouse, either to watch in person, or to pay for an able-bodied man, to be appointed thereto by the said deputy and common council-men; that the said watchman be provided with a lantern and candle, and well and sufficiently armed with halberds, and watch from nine in evening till seven in the morning, from Michaelmas to the 1st of April, and from ten till five during the remainder of the year.

In the year 1707, many fires having happened in London and its suburbs, occasioned by the carelessness of servants, an Act of Parliament was passed for preventing such accidents in future. This Act rendered a servant guilty of carelessness liable to a fine of 100*l*. or eighteen months' imprisonment with hard labour: at the same time additional fire-cocks were ordered to be made, with leather pipes and sockets to screw upon the fire-cocks, and for the future all party walls (except the houses on London-bridge) should be of brick or stone.

In 1710, the number of houses and inhabitants in London being greatly increased, both in the City and suburbs, the churches were thereby rendered insufficient for the accommodation of the inhabitants, wherefore the Parliament enacted that fifty new churches should be erected in the cities of London and Westminster, the cost of which was defrayed by a duty on coals.

In this year new St. Paul's cathedral was completed.

In 1714 Queen Anne died. Notwithstanding the progress of London, it was during the reign of this queen, in many respects, in a deplorable condition: the streets were badly lighted. In the December following the queen's death it was enacted, "That all house-keepers whose house-door or gateway does front or lie open to any street, lane, or public passage or place of the said city or liberties (hereof, shall, in every dark night—this is every night between [the second night after

each full moon,—set or hang out one or more lights, with sufficient other wicks, shall continue to burn from six o'clock at night till eleven o'clock of the same night, on penalty of 1*s*. And that, under the same penalty, the occupiers of houses in any court that faces any public place or passage, shall alternately hang or set out such a light on the outside of such doors or gates as shall be next the said public place or passage." This Act, it will be seen, applied only to the city and liberties: large districts had and were continuing to rise around, to which this Act did not apply; and, as happens at the present day, these places were left neglected in sanitary or other matters. It will be scarcely credited that at the present day, while proper officers are appointed in the city of London to inspect human food brought into the markets or shops for sale, and to punish those offering an inferior article, that in the immense modern suburbs of Saint Paneras, Islington, &c. each containing a population approaching to that of Manchester and other large towns, there is no officer to interfere with and prevent the sale of unwholesome butcher's meat, fish, or vegetables. It is easy to guess what opportunity this affords for the sale of animals, &c. which must not pass the city markets, in the close neighbourhoods of Somers town and elsewhere. In like manner the lighting of the suburbs of London would be in a neglected state: the streets and footpaths were still unpaved, many not at all—and many of the principal shops in the city were still without glass—indeed the shops adjoining Bow Church were unglazed some years after the death of Queen Anne (engraving 63), and those near the Monument (engraving 61) much later.

Schomberg House, Pall-mall, engraving No. 62, is a good example of a first-class house in the reign of Queen Anne. Its history is most interesting, but this our space obliges us to defer.

REFERENCES TO THE ENGRAVINGS.

- *50. Sign of the Sun, Cheapside.
- *51. Half Moon, Wych-street.
- *52. Seven Stars, Cheapside.
- *53. Chained Swan, corner of Friday-street, Cheapside: this house partly escaped the fire of 1666.
- *54. Entrance to Doctors'-commons, St. Paul's Churchyard.
- 55. Cresset, or fire lamp, formerly used in London.
- *56. Oil Lamp sketched near Lincoln's-inn.
- *57. Torch Extinguisher.
- *58. Brick House, Fish-street-hill: date 1665.
- *59. Moulded brick-work, near the Tower.
- *60. Figure near apt where fire stopped near the corner of Cock-lane.
- 61. Shops, with tradesmen's signs, near the Monument, after the Fire.
- 62. Schomberg House, Pall-mall: time of Queen Anne.
- 63. Unglazed Shops adjoining Bow Church: time of Queen Anne.

BRICK MANUFACTURE.—Companies have been formed in the most eligible localities that could be selected, for the purpose of manufacturing bricks in steam factories, by a new patent process. One of these establishments has for more than twelve months past been in operation on a small scale at Huntingdon, where six men and four boys are making 60,000 bricks a week, no alternations of weather in the slightest degree interfering with their operations. Under the same patent, and on an improved scale, immense works are just being put down at Arlesey, also, on the Great Northern line, a little more than twenty miles south of the metropolis, where about a million-and-a-quarter will be made weekly for the London market. Other works are in progress at Cambridge, where 120,000 a week will be made, at Rugby (120,000), Leicester (60,000), Liverpool (500,000), Manchester (600,000), Birmingham (600,000), Derby (120,000), Nottingham (360,000), Doncaster, for the great Yorkshire towns (800,000), &c. The Nottingham firm, trading under the name of Edward Gripper and Company, have, according to the local *Guardian*, commenced active operations. This company's works will occupy forty-six acres, at Mapperley.

* Those marked * are sketched from existing examples.